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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method for controlling crown gall disease, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) introducing onto a plant species susceptible to the disease an effective amount of a biologically pure culture of ~~an α -proteobacteria, wherein the α -proteobacteria is a strain of *Rhizobiaceae* bacteria~~ *Agrobacterium vitis* strain F2/5 genetically engineered to express a *tx* operon, wherein the ~~α -proteobacteria~~ *Agrobacterium* enters the stem of the plant through a wound site on the plant, and wherein the ~~α -proteobacteria~~ *Agrobacterium* produces trifolitoxin which is capable of controlling crown gall disease on plants; and

(b) observing control of crown gall disease on the plant compared to a plant not exposed to the trifolitoxin-producing ~~bacterium~~ *Agrobacterium*, wherein the plant is a grape or *Nicotiana* plant, ~~a fruit tree or a rose plant.~~

2. -3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) The method of Claim 3 1 wherein the ~~strain of *Agrobacterium* bacteria is the strain~~ *Agrobacterium vitis* strain F2/5 including comprises pT2TFXK, deposited as ATCC Patent Deposit Designation PTA-2356.

5. (canceled)

6. (currently amended) The method of Claim 1 wherein the ~~α -proteobacteria~~ *Agrobacterium* is genetically engineered to express SEQ ID NO:1.

7. -9. (canceled)